

TIGER TALES

SUMMER 2023



Dr. Laura Kagy, Superintendent

Message from the Superintendent

Another school year is on the horizon and I can't wait to see what's in store for our district! We wrapped up last school year by honoring and recognizing our first class of graduates from our Tiny Tigers Preschool and a very talented class of seniors. We are proud of their accomplishments academically, athletically, and in the fine arts. I know they are well on their way to making a difference in the world already.

From confirming this year's school calendar and approving changes to our handbook to developing school supply lists and organizing open houses, our staff are hard at work ensuring we have another school year focused on providing a safe and secure learning environment where our students can excel academically and reach their full potential.

I hope everyone enjoys the rest of their summer break, and we look forward to seeing you on Aug. 22 for the first day of school. Go Tigers!

Dr. Laura Kagy
Superintendent

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This year will bring exciting changes, such as our sixth graders officially moving to the middle school and a new district treasurer, as well as a continuation of tried and true Tiger traditions, including our annual 9/11 celebration featuring a world-renowned speaker and traveling memorial. You can learn more about these changes and activities throughout this newsletter.

Are You Ready for Back to School?

From the 2023-2024 school calendar to supply lists and more Seneca East's website has all of the information you need to ensure your child is ready for the upcoming school year. Don't forget to update your information and your child's information in Final Forms. Also be sure to check out the improvements we've made to our handbook around the middle and high school bell schedule, personal devices, and the dress code. What are you waiting for? Visit se-tigers.com today!

Health Clinic Update

Seneca East's Health Clinic stayed busy throughout the 2022-2023 school year, from providing care to sick and injured students to teaching first aid and CPR to high school students. The clinic also coordinated with two local healthcare professionals to provide a total of 79 free sports physicals for student-athletes.

As a reminder, immunizations are required by the State of Ohio for students entering seventh and twelfth grade at the start of the 2023-2024 school year. Please make sure your student completes this requirement and submits the immunization record to aferres@se-tigers.com.

Elementary Focus on Academics, Kindness for 2023-2024

We saw tremendous growth over the past school year in our elementary students, both academically and socially thanks to the return of our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program.

We are excited to keep that positive momentum going throughout the 2023-2024 school year by continuing to build on our academic success and achievement in the classroom. Additionally, we are dedicated to creating a culture of respect and quality character by building positive relationships.

Special guest speaker Jim “Basketball” Jones will help us kick off the school year right by leading our PBIS Kick-Off assembly

on Sept. 28 where he will speak on anti-bullying topics. Seneca East Elementary will also use its weekly Paws and Think newscasts, hosted by fifth graders, to promote kindness and showcase lessons on bullying prevention. The newscasts are shown to students across the school and are archived on Seneca East’s Facebook page.

If you have a story about a Seneca East graduate or hometown hero who has exemplified positive character or made a powerful impact on the world, please contact Principal Brad Powers at 419-426-1854 or bpowers@se-tigers.com. Our fifth graders would love to share their story with the rest of the student body and the Tiger community.

Tiny Tigers Earn Their Stripes, Advance to Kindergarten

On May 25, 34 students received their preschool diploma at Seneca East’s Tiny Tigers Preschool first-ever graduation ceremony. The ceremony was complete with caps, gowns, singing, and snacks! Congratulations Tiny Tigers class of 2023!





Tiny Tigers Preschool Awarded Five Stars

Seneca East's Tiny Tigers Preschool was recently awarded a five-star Step Up to Quality rating — the highest possible — by the Ohio Department of Education. This is a huge achievement for the school, which just completed its first year.

Step Up to Quality recognizes and promotes learning and development programs that meet quality standards that exceed preschool licensing and school-age child care licensing health and safety regulations.



**5-STAR
AWARD
WINNER!**

Ohio | Department of Education
Department of Job and Family Services

Open Houses Prepare Students for Year Ahead

Students entering grades K-5 and their families are invited and encouraged to attend an Open House on Thursday, Aug. 17 from 6-7:30 p.m.

This is a great opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and learn about their expectations and how they will communicate with you throughout the year. Students are also encouraged to bring their school supplies so they can organize their desks or other workspaces so they are ready to learn beginning with the first day of school. Lunchroom cashiers will also be on-site in the cafeteria to accept deposits for lunch accounts.

Please note: Kindergarten teachers will hold a formal meeting for parents from 5:30-6 p.m. in their classrooms and fifth grade teachers will meet with parents and students in the auxiliary gym at 6 p.m. before heading to their classrooms for the open house

portion of the evening. If you have additional questions about the upcoming school year, contact Elementary Principal Brad Powers at 419-426-1854 or email bpowers@se-tigers.com.

An open house for incoming sixth graders will also be held on Aug. 17. It will kick off with a meeting for students and parents at 6:30 p.m. in the small gymnasium, where procedures and responsibilities will be discussed. Afterward, students will have a chance to visit their classrooms and practice their locker combinations.

We can't wait to see our students on the first day of school, Aug. 22, and kick off another great school year! Bus route information will be shared with families in early August and supply lists will be available at se-tigers.com by July 31.



ACE Funding Available

The Ohio Afterschool Child Enrichment (ACE) Educational Savings Account program provides qualifying families with a \$1,000 credit per child. These funds can be used for a variety of activities designed to help accelerate learning for children. View the QR Code (link) for a step-by-step application guide. Contact Matt Schock at mschock@se-tigers.com for additional assistance.

Sixth Graders Moving to Middle School for 2023-2024 School Year

The 2023-2024 school year will bring big changes for our sixth grade students. They are officially moving into the middle school, giving the district a true sixth through eighth grade middle school concept.

This move will allow us to offer more opportunities with scheduling and make better use of our staff and other resources. Additionally, the sixth graders are already located in the middle school wing, which will ensure a seamless transition.

Welcome, sixth graders!



Transportation News

Busing information, including pick up and drop off location and times, will be released in August and shared during Open House. Also, please welcome our new Transportation Supervisor, Brandon Perkins! Feel free to email him at bperkins@se-tigers.com, call his cell phone at 419-455-3414 or call the Bus Garage at 419-426-2600 with any transportation-related questions.



Seneca East Announces NEW TREASURER

Seneca East Schools would like to welcome Kyle McConnell to the Tiger family! McConnell is the district's new treasurer following Laura Brickner's retirement.

Kyle is no stranger to the community. He graduated from Seneca East Schools in 2004 before earning a bachelor's in accounting from Heidelberg College in 2008. He comes to Seneca East from the Local Government Services division of the Auditor of State's office where he's worked for the past 15 years.

"As a graduate and lifelong resident of the district, I'm looking forward to getting more involved," he said. "In my previous role, I had the opportunity to work with many school districts/treasurers and can't wait to sit on the other side of the table."

He and his wife, Becca, have three children enrolled at Seneca East.



From the TREASURER'S DESK:

On behalf of Seneca East Local Schools, I'd like to thank and congratulate Laura Brickner and Theresa Niedermier for their many years of service to the district, and for their mentorship in bringing me and Haley Carrick up to speed on the finances of the district as we transitioned into our new roles.

During Fiscal Year 2023, Seneca East secured \$300,000 from the K-12 School Safety Grant Program. These dollars were or will be spent on the following:

- Lighting for the exterior of our buildings and parking lots
- Facial recognition and searchable camera systems
- Window armor to cover windows and doors to limit visibility into buildings and classrooms
- New phone system that provides updated 911 access and safety communication
- Updated roadside sign to alert the community if our buildings are on lockdown or there is another safety issue

I look forward to guiding the district forward by making wise use of the state and local funds entrusted to us.

Kyle McConnell
Treasurer

TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT UPDATES

This summer is a busy one for the Technology Department at Seneca East Schools. As a result of a State of Ohio Technology Grant, new, state-of-the-art cameras from Verkada are being installed campus-wide. Additionally, the phone system, originally installed in 2008, is being replaced.

New access points to improve our Wi-Fi connection have also been placed, and we are inventorying and updating more than 700 Chromebooks. We look forward to welcoming our students back to a safer environment in August.

SPECIAL EDUCATION STATEMENT

In accordance with federal law, Seneca East Local Schools assumes responsibility for the location, identification, and evaluation of all children birth through age 21 who reside within the Seneca East Local School District and who require special education and related services. The Special Education Department of Seneca East Local Schools coordinates this child identification process. If you know of or suspect that a child may have a disability, you may contact the Seneca East Local Schools Special Education Department at 419-426-3344 or contact the building principal to discuss these concerns and determine a course of action.

Seneca East Gearing Up for Annual 9/11 Celebration

This fall, Seneca East will be hosting a national traveling memorial and honored guest speaker in conjunction with the Stars, Stripes & Lights Cross Country Meet scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 9.

The 9/11 World Memorial will be in the small gymnasium from Sept. 7-11 and will feature artifacts and memorials from Sept. 11, 2001. Additionally, renowned speaker and former NYC Fire Department Lieutenant Joe Torrillo will be at Seneca East as part of the events of the week. Mr. Torrillo will be speaking to students as well as the local community. More information regarding these special events will be shared on social media closer to the event.



Fall Sports Schedules

VARSTIY FOOTBALL

8/5 Hopewell-Loudon (Scrim.)	H	11:00 am
8/11 Lakota (Scrim.)	H	7:00 pm
8/18 Ashland Crestview	H	7:00 pm
8/25 Gibsonburg	A	7:00 pm
9/1 Monroeville	H	7:00 pm
9/8 Upper Sandusky	A	7:00 pm
9/15 Colonel Crawford	A	7:00 pm
9/22 Buckeye Central	H	7:00 pm
9/29 Bucyrus	H	7:00 pm
10/6 Mohawk	A	7:00 pm
10/13 Wynford	A	7:00 pm
10/20 Carey	H	7:00 pm

JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL

8/19 Ashland Crestview	A	10:00 am
8/26 Gibsonburg	A	10:00 am
9/2 Carey	A	10:00 am
9/9 Upper Sandusky	H	10:00 am
9/16 Colonel Crawford	H	10:00 am
9/23 Buckeye Central	A	10:00 am
9/30 Bucyrus	A	10:00 am
10/7 Mohawk	H	10:00 am
10/14 Wynford	H	10:00 am

FRESHMAN FOOTBALL

No contests are scheduled at this time

VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

8/19 Columbian/Hopewell-Loudon	H	10:00 am
8/21 Willard	A	5:30 pm
8/22 Fostoria	A	5:30 pm
8/24 Northmor	A	5:30 pm
8/28 Monroeville	H	5:30 pm
8/29 Wynford	H	5:30 pm
8/31 Bucyrus	A	5:30 pm
9/5 Carey	H	5:30 pm
9/7 Upper Sandusky	H	5:30 pm
9/12 Buckeye Central	H	5:30 pm

9/14 Colonel Crawford	A	5:30 pm
9/16 Old Fort	H	11:00 am
9/18 Bellevue	A	5:30 pm
9/19 Mohawk	A	5:30 pm
9/21 Wynford	A	5:30 pm
9/26 Bucyrus	H	5:30 pm
9/28 Carey	A	5:30 pm
10/3 Upper Sandusky	A	5:30 pm
10/5 Buckeye Central	A	5:30 pm
10/10 Colonel Crawford	H	5:30 pm
10/12 Mohawk	H	5:30 pm

FRESHMAN VOLLEYBALL

No contests are scheduled at this time

Boys Golf

8/3 Buckeye Central Invite	A	8:00 am
8/7 Bucyrus Invite	A	9:00 am
8/8 Carey	H	11:00 am
8/10 Seneca East Invite	H	8:30 am
8/11 Lakota Invite	A	8:00 am
8/14 Buckeye Central	H	11:00 am
8/15 Upper Sandusky	A	4:15 pm
8/17 Bucyrus	H	11:00 am
8/21 Colonel Crawford	A	4:30 pm
8/26 Norwalk Invite	A	1:00 pm
8/31 Wynford	A	4:15 pm
9/2 Bellevue Invite	A	8:00 am
9/11 Mohawk	A	4:30 pm
9/19 N10 Championships	A	9:30 am

GIRLS GOLF

8/3 Buckeye Central Invite	A	1:00 pm
8/4 Buckeye Centra	H	11:00 am
8/7 Upper Sandusky	H	11:00 am
8/8 Carey	A	10:00 am
8/9 Colonel Crawford	H	11:00 am
8/11 Norwalk St. Paul	H	11:00 am
8/15 Wynford	H	11:00 am
8/16 Carey	H	11:00 am
8/17 Norwalk St. Paul	A	1:00 pm

8/21 Buckeye Central	A	4:15 pm
8/30 Colonel Crawford	A	4:30 pm
9/7 Upper Sandusky	A	4:15 pm
9/11 Wynford	A	4:15 pm
9/18 N10 Championships	A	9:30 am

CROSS COUNTRY (JH & HS)

8/26 The Tiger Classic	H	8:30 am
9/2 MAL Reunion	A	8:30 am
9/9 Stars, Stripes, & Lights	H	4:00 pm
9/16 Lakota Invitational	A	8:30 am
9/23 Fremont St. Joe Invite	A	9:00 am
9/30 Old Fort Invitational	A	9:00 am
10/7 New London Invite (JH)	A	9:00 am
10/7 Nashville, TN (HS)	A	TBA
10/14 N10 Championships	H	10:00 am

JUNIOR HIGH VOLLEYBALL

8/21 Wynford	H	5:00 pm
8/24 Bucyrus	A	5:00 pm
8/28 Carey	A	5:00 pm
8/31 Upper Sandusky	H	5:00 pm
9/5 Buckeye Central	A	5:00 pm
9/7 Colonel Crawford	A	5:00 pm
9/11 Mohawk	A	5:00 pm
9/14 Wynford	A	5:00 pm
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8/22 Carey	H	5:00 pm
8/29 Upper Sandusky	A	5:00 pm
9/5 Colonel Crawford	A	5:00 pm
9/12 Buckeye Central	H	5:00 pm
9/19 Bucyrus	H	5:00 pm
9/26 Mohawk	A	5:00 pm
10/3 Wynford	A	5:00 pm

New Staff Hires

Welcome to Seneca East!



Rebecca Blanton
High School Spanish
Teacher



Haley Carrick
Assistant Treasurer



Kevin Dick
Middle School Math/
Tech/Careers Teacher



Bram White
High School
English Teacher

We are also excited to have several new transportation team members. They are currently completing certification requirements, so stay tuned for our fall newsletter to learn more about our newest Tiger staff!

Retirees

We are grateful to our retirees for their many years of service and dedication to Seneca East and wish them a fantastic retirement!



Marge Roth



Laura Brickner



Tammy Rogers



Lisa Rombach



Theresa Niedermier



Pat Marinis



Janeen Melroy



Jackye Ruffing



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CONGRATULATIONS **CLASS OF 2023!**

